

LIBRARY & MEDIA *DIGEST*

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Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education

Use Free State Library Resources to Help Your Students Succeed!

Through MOREnet, Missouri school districts have access to a number of online information resources to utilize for their students. These resources include full-text periodical and reference information from Gale, online practice tests from LearningExpress Library, and full-text articles from two of Missouri's largest newspapers from NewsBank. MOREnet members have access to these services 24/7.

Gale: The resources from Gale include access to articles and information for all grade levels on a wide range of subjects: business, computers, current events, economics, education, communications, environmental issues, criminal justice, health care, hobbies, humanities, agriculture, law, literature, politics, science, social science, sports, fine arts, technology and many other general-interest topics. These resources are updated daily and include millions of full-text articles (many with images).

LearningExpress Library: This service provides more than 300 online academic and licensing practice tests, including the SAT, ACT, GRE, LSAT, Advanced Placement, civil service, military, real estate, law enforcement, citizenship, TOEFL, ESL, basic skills for students and much more. Test-preparation materials go from elementary school through adulthood. LearningExpress Library also provides instant scoring and customized feedback for its testing resources.

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Still Available

Missouri State Library 2010 Summer Reading Program:

The 2010 Summer Reading Program Manual is still available on DVD for free from DESE. You can download the application online at <http://dese.mo.gov/divimprove/lmc/documents/2010SummerReadingProgramApplication.pdf>. Fax the completed form to 573-522-1134.

Registration is still open for the 2010 children's summer reading workshops. This year's theme is "Make a Splash – READ!" Workshops are scheduled for:

- March 1 – Springfield
- March 2 – Warrensburg
- March 3 – Gallatin
- March 8 – Cape Girardeau
- March 9 – St. Louis
- March 10 – Columbia

The registration deadline is Feb. 9. Visit <http://www.sos.mo.gov/library/development/workshop/summerreading/> for online registration and additional information.



Current Announcements

Epsilon Beta

To all high school librarians who have a library club or a book club – you might be interested in joining Epsilon Beta. The organization will be having its convention March 28-29 in Cape Girardeau. The cost for students includes their share of a hotel room plus \$30 in convention fees.

At the convention, students can compete in different competitions, including quiz bowl and giving book talks. Seniors can even win scholarship money. Officers for the following year are elected at the business meeting. Other physical and educational activities will also take place during the convention.

If you are interested in receiving more information, please contact Georganna Krumlinde, MASL liaison to Epsilon Beta, via e-mail at krumling@troy.k12.mo.us. A mailing will be sent out with all of the convention information, but only to those librarians who request the information.

Missouri Association of School Librarians (MASL)

MASL has a number of exciting events in store for library media specialists in the state of Missouri:

- The association's premier event, the spring conference, will showcase a number of "Missouri Wonders" in conjunction with this year's theme. The conference is scheduled for April 18-20. With more than 80 workshop presenters, including 20 Missouri authors, conference attendees will experience the "wonders" of library education. In addition to workshops, the spring conference also hosts the Dollars for Scholars auction, the conference store, the Reading Incentive Awards banquet and many other events.



Detailed information and registration forms are available on the MASL Web site at <http://www.maslonline.org> (click on *Conferences & Events* and then *Spring Conference* on the menu on the left side of the page). To download the conference brochure, go to http://www.maslonline.org/resource/resmgr/2009_masl_online_conference.pdf. Early-bird rates are available until Feb. 1.

- The Reading Incentive Awards committee has recently announced the 2010-2011 top-10 nominations of popular titles for children and young adults grades 1-12. Visit <http://www.maslonline.org> to view the lists of nominated titles for each of the awards.
- MASL sponsors a member to participate in the ALA Emerging Leader program. Each participant has the opportunity to build leadership skills by working with peers on an ALA division, round table or affiliated project. This year, Ashley Roberts from the Bernie R-XIII School District has been nominated by MASL to represent Missouri's school librarians. Emerging Leaders must be ALA members under the age of 35, or have fewer than five years of experience as a degreed librarian,

and must either hold a master's degree in library and information science from an ALA- or NCATE-accredited program or be enrolled in such a program. Candidates must be able to attend both ALA conferences and must commit to serve on an ALA committee, task force or work group upon completion of the program.

- The scholarships and grants selection committee has received nominations and is currently selecting winners for 2010. Visit the MASL Web site for information.
- MASL membership continues to grow in 2010. Library media specialists benefit from the association's numerous educational and networking opportunities throughout the year. MASL continues to serve Missouri's school librarians and advocates for library services for all students. Members also have exclusive access to the association's premier communication portal, the new MASL Web site. The site's members-only pages offer Reading Incentive information, association group pages, online forums and many other features. Beginning this year, members will receive discounted rates for Reading Incentive Awards items on the Web site. Go to <http://www.maslonline.org>.

Professional Development

Announcing the launch of the WebJunction Missouri online portal

The Missouri State Library has introduced WebJunction Missouri, a new statewide education and training portal for library staff, trustees and volunteers. The portal allows you to connect with your library peers, keep up with Missouri library news and take mini courses to update your skills – all at one central site.

Located at <http://mo.webjunction.org>, the portal is built to work in conjunction with the state library's Web site (<http://www.sos.mo.gov/library>) and to enhance the resources already available at the national WebJunction site (<http://www.webjunction.org>).

WebJunction Missouri's main page includes a library news discussion list; libraries are invited to share news and photos via this thread. The list is a good place to post information about groundbreakings, new buildings and renovations, new library directors, election results, major donations and grants, and new services offered by your library. Several other areas of the site also host discussion lists. Identify your interests, connect with your peers and get the conversations started.

Click on the *Missouri Courses* tab to find more than 100 online training courses available at a discount. Topics cover multiple aspects of library services, including but not limited to managing technology, software applications, services to various library customer groups, management and planning. Most courses are self-paced, which allows staff and trustees to

enhance their knowledge and skill levels at their convenience. (Please review the course use policies before signing up.)

The portal also has a page dedicated to youth services. To get there from the main WebJunction Missouri page, click on the *Missouri Central* tab. Then click on the *Youth Services* link under the *Missouri Library Services* heading.

While anyone can view the information available on the portal, you must establish your affiliation as a WebJunction Missouri member in order to post documents, join discussions and access the discounted online courses. To join:

- Go to <http://mo.webjunction.org> and create an account. You will create a profile that includes the name of the library for which you work.
- On the *Affiliations* tab in your profile, check the box to join Missouri.
- Your request to verify your eligibility as a Missouri member will be processed within one to two business days, and a confirmation e-mail will be sent to you.

Staff at the Missouri State Library are eager to use this new venue to engage with Missouri's library community. Watch for information on further developments throughout the coming months. Your suggestions for expanding and improving this new means of learning and sharing ideas are welcome and encouraged.

For assistance or to share your comments, contact Marge Kudrna, youth services consultant, at **800-325-0131, ext. 17** or at marge.kudrna@sos.mo.gov.

New course available from e-Learning for Educators

Title:

Information, Communications Technology and Media Literacy: The New GLEs and CLEs

Course overview:

These standards replace the information literacy strand in communication arts. Students live in an environment of rapid technological change and proliferating information resources. The standards are intended to assist schools as they prepare students for life in the 21st century. Because of its commonality to all disciplines, all learning environments and all education levels, this document has been proposed to be a separate content area rather than a part of communication arts. This change emphasizes the important relationship of information, communications technology and media literacy to all instructional content. It also reinforces the fact that developing competence is the responsibility of teachers in all subject areas.

Participants will:

1. Thoroughly examine the new standards.
2. Map the standards to their curricula.
3. Identify standards that are not currently addressed by existing curricula.
4. Discover collaboration opportunities for all members of the learning community.
5. Share integration and lesson ideas with other Missouri educators.

Registration:

Go to <http://www.elearningmo.org/register.html>.

DESE News

Electronic resource use for the first semester of 2009-2010

For the past six months, DESE and MOREnet have been involved with promotion and training for electronic resources provided through the Missouri State Library. Statistics have been reviewed to determine utilization patterns of these resources for the first semester. (All data is by district and not by individual building.) The data reflects that usage has definitely increased, but a significant number of districts are not utilizing these resources. Sixty-two school districts have never logged into the network to access the electronic resources. Another 67 have logged in fewer than 25 times during the first half of the school year. The data also shows that these same districts did not have an attendee at the online resource trainings offered during the past year. Over the coming months, DESE will be working with MASL to develop an outreach program to help some of these districts. Don't forget that MOREnet's training and professional-development opportunities on these resources are available to MOREnet members. Visit <http://www.more.net/content/apps/trainingschedule> for details.

School core data

Information will be available from DESE in mid-to-late March.

Missouri Teacher of the Year

This year, changes have been made to the eligibility criteria for the Missouri Teacher of the Year Program. Previously, school personnel whose duties were primarily administrative, supervisory or focusing on professional development were ineligible. This restriction included guidance counselors, librarians, instructional coaches and other similar positions. Beginning in 2010-2011, individuals in these positions are now eligible to participate in the program. Principals and other administrators are still ineligible.

Information literacy GLEs

After receiving public comment, the final version of the information, communications technology and media literacy GLEs is being completed and will be ready for distribution at the 2010 MASL Spring Conference. (A panel discussion on the new GLEs will be one of the workshops.) In addition, a preconference workshop on the GLEs (part of the online course described on page 3) is available.

Utilize the Electronic Resources Available through MOREnet

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NewsBank: NewsBank offers the full text of news features, special-interest stories, editorials, daily columns, letters to the editor, obituaries and more from the Kansas City Star and the St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

Other quality, free resources available to schools include NetSmartz Internet safety materials and Annenberg Media professional development for educators. Also available are Missouri-specific resources like the Missouri Digital Heritage Initiative and the "Finding Missouri: Our History and Heritage" video series.

Access to these online resources is available from outside your institution's location through a variety of remote-access methods. Contact MOREnet technical support for assistance in determining what method of remote access is best suited for your organization.

The following contact information will assist you in reaching us:

Curt Fuchs: curt.fuchs@dese.mo.gov

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